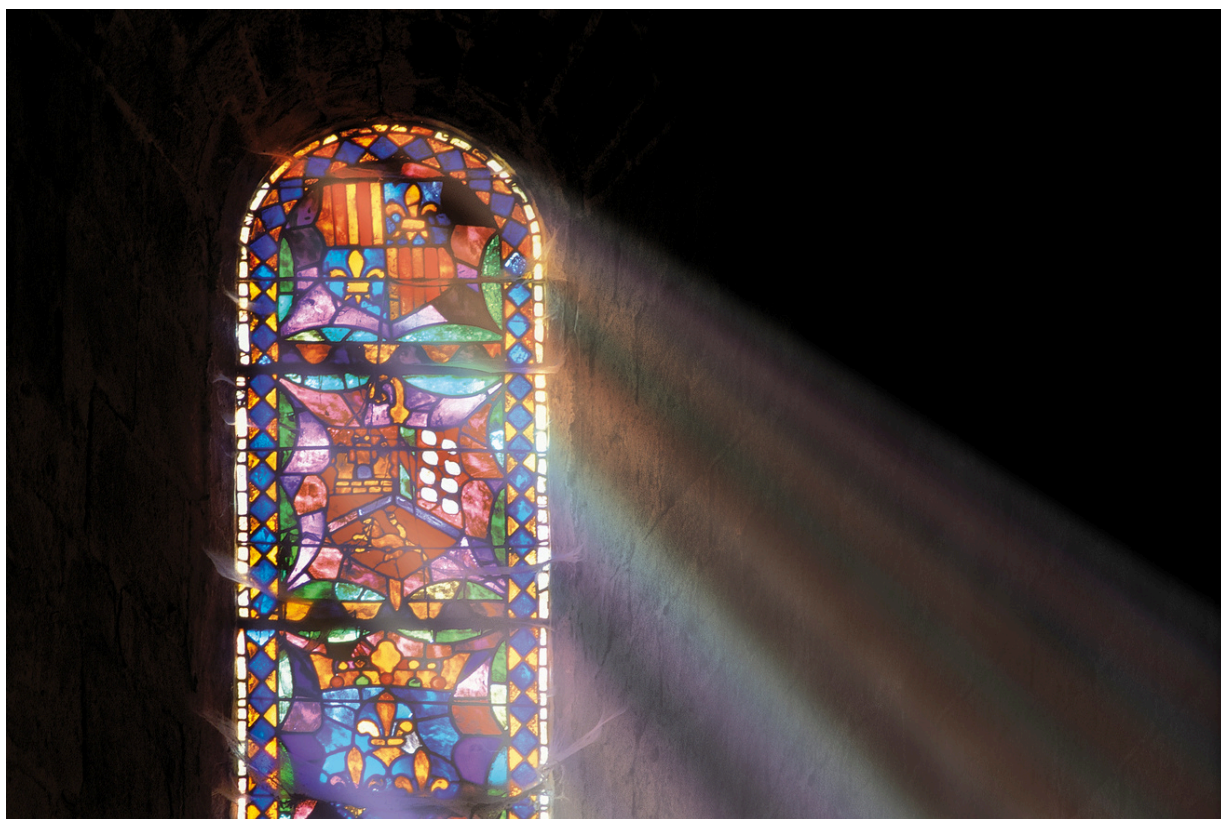


THE BROADCASTER

CONNECTING OUR GCC COMMUNITY SINCE 1941

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SOMETHING SPIRITUAL



In the church calendar, at the end of the Easter season, we celebrate Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost remembers the moment described in Acts 2, when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples like wind and fire, filling them with courage, wonder, and new possibility. Pentecost Sunday has become one of my favorite Sundays of the year. Partly because of the bright red paraments and vestments (my favorite color), but even more because Pentecost invites us to pay attention to the Holy Spirit. It invites us to wonder whether the Spirit might be moving in our midst. It invites us to notice that those strange coincidences, unexpected connections, moments of peace, courage, or grace... might be something spiritual. Church is good for many things. Churches build community. Churches offer welcome, refuge, healing, and support. Churches sustain ministries of justice, compassion, and care for those most in need. They create networks of hope and belonging that stretch far beyond their walls. And there is one more thing that Church is good for: introducing us to that which is spiritual. Church is good for those who consider themselves deeply spiritual, those who feel the Spirit move, who sense God speaking in direct ways, and who seek to attune themselves to the Spirit's work in individuals and communities. Church is also good for those who quietly wonder, "Could it be that something spiritual is happening here?" Those who carry questions, inklings, curiosity, and a desire to lean in just a little closer. And perhaps Church is most important for those who cannot quite imagine that anything spiritual could really be happening at all. Church should make room for all three, inviting each of us to encounter the possibility of something spiritual in a new way.

Pentecost reminds us that spiritual moments are not limited to Sunday morning worship. Something spiritual might happen during fellowship hour, at a committee meeting, while tending the church gardens, during a fundraiser dinner, or sitting on the floor of the Godly Play room. Pentecost opens our eyes to the possibility that sacred moments are happening all around us, here at GCC and beyond. Over the last few months, I have been especially aware of these kinds of moments. Our Women's Retreat in March was one of those experiences for me. While facilitating the retreat was physically tiring, it was also deeply renewing. I witnessed meaningful conversations, vulnerability, laughter, prayer, and connection. I left feeling spiritually refreshed and grateful, aware that the Holy Spirit had been present among us in beautiful ways.

In April, I spent several days at a retreat center in Richmond, Virginia whose mission is to pray for the city of Richmond. They described their building as having "prayer-soaked walls," and honestly, it felt that way. There was a calm and peace throughout the property that seemed to settle into every corner. The community gathered three times each day to pray for the city, and through their rhythm of prayer, hospitality, and shared life, the Spirit felt deeply present there too. Retreats and sacred spaces certainly help create opportunities for spiritual experiences. But I do not believe we need curated spaces to encounter God. Spiritual moments can happen anywhere we are paying attention.

So, this summer, I wonder if we might remain open to the possibility of something spiritual happening; here at GCC, in our homes, in our conversations, in moments of rest, service, joy, or even surprise. And if you notice something sacred, I hope you will share it with me. I would love to hear about it. My prayer for our church is this: God, make us open to the possibility that something spiritual is happening here. Amen.

Rev. Abigail Lutz

P.S. While I did not intend for this article to become a commercial for Spiritual Life Teams at GCC, they are certainly a wonderful place to begin exploring "something spiritual" together. If you would like to learn more, I would love to talk with you.

FUEL THE FUTURE: GCC CAPITAL RESERVE CAMPAIGN ~ SUMMER 2026 INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF GLENVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

There is so much to celebrate at Glenview Community Church. Because of the generosity and commitment of this congregation, GCC continues to be a vibrant home for worship, music, learning, outreach, and community connection. We are also looking ahead with gratitude as we anticipate paying off the Forward in Faith loan by the end of this year.

As we celebrate these milestones, we also recognize the importance of caring for the building that supports so much ministry and community life.

Over the past year, GCC's Capital Projects Committee has been evaluating the needs of our aging facility and identifying projects that will help keep our church safe, welcoming, and functional for years to come. Unlike our annual operating budget, these large-scale building improvements require dedicated capital funding. One urgent need has already emerged. At the Annual Meeting on May 17, the congregation approved the replacement of two boilers that are now beyond repair. These boilers provide heat throughout the church building, classrooms, offices, and gathering spaces. Replacing them is essential before the next heating season. The estimated cost of the boiler replacement is \$166,000.

While funds for this project will temporarily come from GCC reserves, to support this work and future capital needs, we are launching the **Fuel the Future: Capital Reserve Campaign**, running June through August 2026.

How You Can Help

Your gift will help GCC continue to be a warm, welcoming, and active center for ministry and community life for generations to come. You may contribute in any of the following ways:

- Mail or deliver a check to the church office with “Capital Reserve Campaign” in the memo line
- Make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from an IRA
- Donate appreciated stock
- Recommend a grant through your Donor Advised Fund
- Make an online gift by credit or debit card by [clicking this link](#)

Thank you for helping Fuel the Future of GCC!

Questions about these capital projects? Please contact Tom Macfadden, Chair of the Capital Projects Committee, Tmacfadden@gmail.com or Doug Berg, GCC Treasurer, Douglasrogerberg@yahoo.com

GCC MEMORIAL GARDENS: REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES

The Memorial Gardens offer a place of remembrance for the cremains of loved ones. The original garden is located in the courtyard north of the Commons—a serene, light-filled sacred space in the center of our church home. Cremains of more than 300 souls rest there, memorialized on plaques, with names also listed in the memorial book by the window overlooking the garden.

Around 2019, our church families realized the original garden had reached capacity and few interment spaces were still available. A committee of GCC members visualized the creation of another Memorial Garden space where cremains of many more loved ones would be placed. That space, now on GCC’s east lawn, is a low masonry wall surrounding a patio and a wall of remembrance. In June of 2024, Reverend Jim held a blessing ceremony for the beautifully planted, new Memorial Garden. Families of two beloved individuals, whose cremains had been waiting for a place in the new garden, were the first to inter following the blessing ceremony.

The new Memorial Garden has space for 400 cremains, and is designed for expansion if needed. Memorial plaques for the Wall of Remembrance in the garden are available to remember loved ones interred elsewhere. We invite all GCC members and friends to consider the Memorial Garden in planning for themselves and loved ones. GCC will maintain a space where you and your loved ones can be honored for generations.

The Memorial Garden Care Committee is a devoted group of GCC members who maintain both garden areas. The committee welcomes new volunteers to maintain both gardens. For information on volunteering, contact Peter Grant, pjg816@gmail.com or (312) 641-8948.

For more information on the cost of reserving a spot for cremains, or for the purchase of a plaque on the Wall of Remembrance, contact the GCC office: office@gccucc.org. Refer to the GCC website, gccucc.org, for complete Memorial Garden information. Visit both gardens in person, especially on a sunny day, and rest in the sense of remembrance surrounded by God’s beauty.



EVENTS IN MAY

GCC PUPPETS

The GCC Puppet Players performed their puppet lesson (“Calm Seas Ahead”) for the Sunday school on May 11th. Three biblical storm stories were told: Noah, Jonah, and Peter the Apostle walking on the water. This required a huge ark, a whale (and whale vomit), lots of waves with thunder and lightning. There were the inevitable goofy songs with the finale being Kermit the Frog singing “Rainbow Connection” from Noah’s Ark. There was not a huge Sunday School audience, but lots of parents and other adults made for a boisterous audience. Interested in joining puppets? All students 6th grade and up, as well as adults, are encouraged to join the puppet team! Fun is guaranteed!



SCENES FROM AN ITALIAN RESTAURANT

On Friday May 8, our GCC Commons was transformed into a dreamy Italian Restaurant for an evening of music, food, fun, fellowship, and fundraising! The evening’s music lineup was superb. The youngest magician ever to perform at GCC (our very own George Gilman) went table to table, wowing attendees with his magic tricks! The crowd present was ready for a meaningful evening of celebrating GCC’s vibrant music ministry and the over \$15,000 raised was a symbol of our community’s commitment to sustaining that ministry. The event was a night to remember for Glenview Community Church and for all who were present. Of course, it could not have been done without many important key players. We continue to extend gratitude to Linda Pedian who brought her expertise in fundraising to GCC and gave our community the gift that was this special night. We also thank Gary Wendt for his incredible creativity, time, and talent he brought to this evening, helping to curate the special atmosphere that was experienced by all. We thank Kate Lee for her leadership and participation in the evening’s fun! We thank the many musicians who contributed to the evening’s line up; each soloist, ensemble and instrumentalist bringing excellence and sparkle! We thank the generous sponsors and those who showed up with generosity at the event. We thank all the enthusiastic attendees and of course the Worship & Music Ministry Board who made up the planning team for this special event and for a beautiful evening and for your support of the music ministry at Glenview Community Church.



MAY SPEAKERS FORUM: AN INTRO TO THE ILLINOIS JUDICIAL SYSTEM

In May GCC welcomed Judges Cecelia Horan and Frank Andreou for “An Introduction to the Illinois Judicial System.” Through thoughtful conversation and real world insight, they offered attendees a deeper understanding of how the Illinois court system functions and the important role the judiciary plays in our community.



MOTHER'S DAY

We took time to celebrate and honor all the mothers and caring figures who help nurture, encourage, and support others every day . We are so grateful for the love and care shared throughout our church community.



YOUTH GROUP

May was a busy month for GCC Youth Group. We spent time caring for our church by helping clean up landscaping and outdoor signs. We added some color and joy with sidewalk chalk art. To celebrate our last youth group gathering before summer break, we walkd to Dairy Bar for ice cream and fellowship! Thank you to all of our youth and their families for a wonderful year. We wish everyone a restful and fun summer, and look forward to being together again in the fall!



CHILDREN'S MUSICAL: THE MAGIC SCHOOLBOAT!

We are so proud of all of our young performers for their hard work, creativity, and courage. From singing and storytelling to plenty of smiles and laughter, they helped fill our church with joy and energy. A special thank you to Gary Wendt and Debby Shellard for their leadership, encouragement, and all the time they poured into helping make this musical so special. We are grateful for you both!



PATHWAYS: CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CONFIRMANDS

Confirmation Sunday was a joyful celebration at GCC as we welcomed our newest confirmands,. Surrounded by family, friends, and the church community, these young people affirmed their faith and took an important step in their spiritual journey. We are grateful for their commitment and look forward to supporting them as they continue to grow in faith and service. Congratulations Confirmands!



GCC'S NEW OFFICE MANAGER, SHAWNA MOORAD

In May, Shawna Moorad was hired to be our new Office Manager. The Office Manager position is a new part-time position at GCC that exists to support all office operations. We are excited about this new role and happy to welcome Shawna to the GCC Staff Team! Shawna and her family have been members of GCC for seven years. She is currently in seminary and is a Stephen Minister. Shawna also works with our youth group, Pathways program , and is on our Faith Formation and Congregational Care Ministries. Shawna's office hours are Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. You can contact her at: office@gccucc.org or by calling the church office at, 847-724-2210.



GGCNS IS HIRING!

Glenview Community Church Nursery School (GCCNS) is seeking caring, creative, and enthusiastic part-time teachers to join our highly regarded North Shore preschool community. Since 1947, GCCNS has provided a warm, play-based learning environment where children are encouraged to grow socially, emotionally, physically, and cognitively at their own pace. As a NAEYC-accredited program, we are committed to nurturing curiosity, creativity, respect, and joyful learning within a welcoming and inclusive community for all families. If you have a passion for early childhood education and value meaningful relationships, guided play, and child-centered learning, we would love to hear from you. For more information, please contact Laura Dillon at laura.dillon@gccucc.org or call her at 847-729-1440.



HEALTHY HINTS

Summer is a time to reset. We often focus on physical health, but emotional well-being matters, too. An emotional detox can help you recharge and reconnect with what you need most.

Many of us carry guilt, pressure, perfectionism, and responsibility without realizing how heavy it has become. Over time, that emotional strain can affect sleep, stress, relationships, and energy.

Here are a few ways an emotional detox might look in everyday life:

- Giving yourself permission to step away from constant productivity
- Creating healthy boundaries with more peace and less guilt
- Making time for reflection, journaling, prayer, meditation, or therapy
- Spending time in nature
- Meeting yourself with kindness instead of criticism



A helpful way to think about this is through three simple “R”s:

- Release – notice what you’ve been carrying, whether it’s guilt, perfectionism, resentment, or simply too much pressure
- Reset – create a little space for yourself with less noise, less rushing, and more rest
- Rebuild – begin choosing new patterns that support you, like healthier boundaries, more realistic expectations, and relationships that feel nourishing

Often, the emotional side of wellness is the missing piece for people who still feel stuck. When we make space for that part of healing, meaningful change can begin.

For all questions or complimentary Health Coaching, please contact Laura O’Mera, Integrative Nutrition Health Coach at 847.814.1565 or lauraomera@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pride Month Book Study –

June 1, 15 and 29 (Mondays) at 6:30 p.m. Join us for this years Pride Month Book Study. We will be reading the devotional book: “God Didn’t Make Us to Hate Us” by Rev. Lizzie McManus. This study will be a collaboration between Glenview Community Church and Glenview United Methodist Church and will be held in alternating locations: GUMC, GCC then GUMC. Get a copy of the book and read one devotion per day starting May 22.

Buffalo Grove Pride Parade - June 7, 10:15 am

GCC will kick off Pride Month this year by participating in the Buffalo Grove Pride Parade! Everyone - families, youth, and allies of all ages - is welcome to attend. Please let Rev. Abigail know you plan on coming!



UPCOMING EVENTS

June 14th, 11:30 am: Pride Picnic with Glenview United Methodist Church

Join us for our Pride Sunday worship service at 10 am followed by a Pride Picnic at Glenview United Methodist Church (11:30am-1:30pm). A group from GCC will be walking to GUMC after our 10 am service with flags for the picnic! RSVP for the light lunch provided to Rev. Abigail by June 7.

Youth Service Learning in Chicago – Friday, July 31 – Sunday, August 2, 2026.

Calling all middle and high school students to join us for a weekend of service projects and experiential learning in Chicago while sleeping overnight at a church in Chicago while exploring faith through group devotions and worship. The weekend will include service opportunities as well as visits to organizations doing important work in Chicago and will end with worship Sunday morning at Trinity UCC in Chicago. Register by [clicking this link](#) or calling the office.

Godly Play Camp – August 3-6, 2026 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at GCC.

Join us for a joyful week of stories, creativity, music, and play at Godly Play Camp! Children ages 3-12 are invited to explore faith through Godly Play storytelling, crafts, games, music, snacks, and community. Each morning will include opportunities for imagination, wonder, friendship, and fun as we learn together. Cost is \$40 per child. [Register by clicking here](#) by July 27, or by calling the office. Older students and adults are welcome to get involved as volunteer helpers! [Please click here to register as a helper!](#)

Questions? Contact: Rev. Abigail at abigail.lutz@gccucc.org. We would love to welcome your child this summer!



FIND YOUR

COMMUNITY

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Web: gccucc.org
Facebook: facebook.com/
GlenviewCommunityChurch/

SENIOR MINISTER

Rev. Dr. James Matarazzo, Jr.

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Rev. Abigail Lutz

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